

REMARKS

This amendment is based on the after-final amendment filed on September 18, 2008. With this paper, claims 1-6 and 10 are amended, claims 7-9 are canceled, and new claims 11-14 are added. New claim 11 is based on original claim 3, new claims 12 and 14 have their basis on page 2, lines 13-15 and 32-35, as well as page 3, lines 1-4 of the originally filed application. New claim 13 is based on page 2, lines 9-13. The application now includes claims 1-6 and 10-14.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 102

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Bowers (U.S. Patent No. 6,392,634, Bowers hereinafter).

The apparatus as recited in amended claim 1 comprises an already existing electronic device having a screen display, and one or more pointing device components integrated into the already existing electronic device. The one or more pointing device components are configured to give the already existing electronic device, in addition to its main functions, an auxiliary function as a pointing device, thus enabling the already existing electronic device to act together with an external electronic screen device, which makes use of the pointing device. The external electronic screen device is other than the screen display of the already existing electronic device.

Bowers discloses a laptop computer comprising a removable trackball/mouse unit as a pointing device. As shown in Figs. 1-7, Bowers discloses that the laptop (an existing device) uses the removable trackball mouse unit (an add-on device) as the pointing device. The trackball mouse (the add-on device) acts together with the screen of the laptop (an internal unit of the existing device) and points to the screen of the laptop.

Compared to the amended claim 1, Bowers discloses an already existing electronic device having a screen display, and one or more pointing device components integrated into the already existing electronic device. However, Bowers does not specify that the one or more pointing device components are configured to give the already existing electronic device, in addition to its main functions, an auxiliary function as a pointing device, thus

enabling the already existing electronic device to act together with an external electronic screen device, which makes use of the pointing device. In claim 1, it is specified that the external electronic screen device is other than the screen display of the already existing electronic device, and the arrangement of Bowers is unable to be used with the external electronic screen device as the pointing device.

Based on the above, applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claim 1, as well as the rejection of dependent claims 2-6 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bowers and in view of Miyashita (U.S. Patent No. 6,909,906).

Claim 10 is dependent from claim 1.

Miyashita discloses an input apparatus that is detachably coupled to a portable device. The input apparatus can be attached to the portable device as a regular keypad or detached from the portable device and used as a mouse. The mouse is coupled to the main body of the portable device like a conventional mouse coupling with a computer, i.e. to control a position of a cursor on a display of the portable device.

The combination of Bowers and Miyashita is different from the present invention because it does not specify that the one or more pointing device components are configured to give the already existing electronic device (i.e. the portable device), in addition to its main functions, an auxiliary function as a pointing device, thus enabling the portable device to act together with an external electronic screen device, which makes use of the pointing device. The external electronic screen device is other than the screen display of the portable device, and the arrangement of Miyashita is unable to be used with the external electronic screen device as the pointing device.

The present invention solves a problem of how to avoid carrying external pointing devices that are needed for using external electronic screen devices as disclosed in the description page 1, lines 22-24. In Bowers the pointing device (30) that is releasable from the laptop (10) is enabled to act together with only the screen (24) of the laptop (10) (col 3,

lines 40-44). Therefore, an extra pointing device is needed for using with an external screen device. Bowers does not solve the above-mentioned problem.

Miyashita, also, does not disclose that the operation unit (105) enables it to act together with an external electric screen device. Thus, an extra pointing device is needed for using with external screen devices. Miyashita, too, does not solve the above-mentioned problem.

Combining the teachings of Bowers with the teachings of Miyashita only result in an already existing electronic device having an auxiliary function as a pointing device thus enabling the already existing electronic device or the auxiliary unit of it to act together with the screen unit of the already existing electronic device. The combination does not solve the problem disclosed above.

Based on the above, the subject matter of claim 10 is patentable over Bowers and in view of Miyashita. Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claim 10 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

For all the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all of the claims of the application are now in condition for allowance and their passage to issue is earnestly solicited. Applicant's agent urges the Examiner to call to discuss the present response if there are any questions.

Date: 11/24/2008

WARE, FRESSOLA, VAN DER SLUYS
& ADOLPHSON LLP
755 Main Street, P.O. Box 224
Monroe, Connecticut 06468
Tel: (203) 261-1234

Respectfully submitted,



Shiming Wu
Agent for Applicant
Registration No. 56,885